

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 224020
ORIGIN SS-25

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 224020

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ZP, US, IR

SUBJECT: PRM 10

REF: TEHRAN 8003

1. MEDIA REPORTS REFERRED TO IN REFTEL (WHICH OUR INFORMATION INDICATES CAME FROM AFP, NOT AP) HAVE SO FAR AS WE CAN TELL GONE UNNOTICED HERE.

2. IF YOU ARE QUERIED ABOUT THESE REPORTS BY THE SHAH OR ON HIS BEHALF, YOU CAN QUITE HONESTLY SAY THAT NO INFORMATION ABOUT PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON PRM 10 HAS BEEN DISSEMINATED TO THE FIELD, AND SIMPLY UNDERTAKE TO REFER HIS QUERY TO WASHINGTON.

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3. FYI. PRESIDENTIAL DECISION ON PRM 10 IS BEING HELD EXTREMELY CLOSELY. I AM INFORMED, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN IS NOT MENTIONED BY NAME AND THAT WHILE PERSIAN GULF IS REFERRED TO AS AN AREA OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE IN DEVELOPING U.S. GLOBAL MILITARY STRATEGY (NOT A PARTICULARLY SURPRISING CONCLUSION), TO SAY THAT IT IS INCLUDED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF U.S. DEFENSE "OBLIGATIONS" WOULD

CARRY UNJUSTIFIED IMPLICATIONS IF THIS WERE INTERPRETED
TO MEAN THAT WE ENVISAGE ANY OBLIGATIONS GOING BEYOND
THOSE CONTAINED IN ALREADY EXISTING U.S.-IRANIAN AGREEMENTS.

END FYI.

4. TEHRAN 8194 RECEIVED AFTER FOREGOING PREPARED. IF YOU
ARE QUERIED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT SECRETARY BROWN'S COMMENTS
ABOUT DEFENSE OF PERSIAN GULF AREA, YOU SHOULD ALSO UNDER-
TAKE TO REFER THIS QUERY TO WASHINGTON. HOW WE REPLY WILL
CLEARLY REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE COORDINATION HERE AND WILL
DEPEND IN PART ON NATURE AND THRUST OF ANY QUESTIONS
WHICH YOU RECEIVE FROM IRANIANS.
VANCE

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